

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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Sinuiju Airfield

1. In early February there were 10 MIG-type fighter planes permanently based at Sinuiju airfield. These planes were flown between 0500 to 0600 hours and 1900 to 2000 hours daily. During these periods the planes flew short distances returning to the field briefly before taking off again. An average of 30 to 40 planes participated in these flights, and they generally flew in formations of five to seven planes. About 300 ground personnel attached to the North Korean air force command were at this field.

Sondok Airfield

2. In November 1952 the Communists began to repair Sondok airfield (N 39-45, E 127-29) (CU-7099) which had been damaged after the outbreak of the Korean War. The repairs were completed in February 1953, but as late as early March 1953 no planes had used the field. One company of men from the North Korean air force headquarters was guarding the area.

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1. Comment. in early September 1952 the Sondok airfield, which had been bombed in August by United Nations aircraft, was undergoing reconstruction and underground hangars were also being built.

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1. In late December 1952 the former Soviet air force base four miles northwest of Ch'angch'un (N 43-53, E 125-20)¹ was returned to the Chinese Communist Air Force Command of the Northeast Military Area. The field was occupied by Chinese Communist troops from Kirin Airfield and was scheduled to be used as a training center for civil and military pilots.
2. The Pench'ihu (N 41-20, E 123-43) Airfield is approximately four kilometers south of the Pench'ihu railroad station. The runways form a "T" and at the foot of the "T" there are six concrete revetments. In February 1953 there were two rows of gasoline drums approximately 100 meters in length and five drums high to the east of these revetments. Ten MIG-type planes and five twin-engine planes were at the field, and the personnel included about 200 Soviets and 100 Chinese Communist ground forces.

1. Comment. This is probably Ch'angch'un West Airfield (N 43-56, E 125-09), which is seven miles northwest of Ch'angch'un.

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